

Appl. No. 09/939,784
Response dated: December 7, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-40 are pending. Claims 1-5, 14-24, and 33-40 stand finally rejected. Claims 6-13 and 25-32 stand objected to as being dependent upon dependent upon are rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 20, amended claims 6-13 and 25-32 as per the objection to make the claims allowable, and amended the dependences of claims 2-5, 14-19, 21-24, and 33-40 to depend from the allowable claims.

In view of the above response, Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that such action be taken. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,



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